

PUBLIC NOTICE

BELMONT TIMBER SALE

The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) is considering timber management activities in Section 16 of T15N – R16W. This section is located in the Belmont Creek drainage approximately 20 miles northeast of Missoula, Montana and 15 miles west of Seeley Lake, Montana.

The objective of the proposed timber sale is to continue to generate revenue for the Common School Trust Account through harvesting timber in a manner to produce a sustainable timber yield over the long run.

The DNRC is proposing to harvest between 14,000 and 28,000 tons of timber (approximately 2 to 4 million board feet) using a combination of commercial thinning, shelterwood and selection harvests. Harvesting may take place on approximately 300 to 500 acres. Harvesting would be conducted in such a manner as to emulate those stand conditions which typically existed within the proposed sale area prior to organized fire suppression. In addition, this action would reduce the potential for insect and disease infestations and reduce the threat of catastrophic wild fire. Potential access to the proposed timber sale area is by existing roads in the Highway 83 - Placid Lake – Spook Lake area.

The proposed sale is currently in the early planning stages. At this time, we are identifying issues and concerns related to the project. If you wish to submit input on the sale plan or would like further information, please direct your comments or questions to:

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In order to address all issues with respect to this project and incorporate them into the environmental review process, please submit comments by February 28, 2013.